

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY: H: SGOLDBERG:PA:CWBRAJ:JAC

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H: SGOLDBERG

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R 101625Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO MR JOHN J STANG, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

VFW MEMORIAL BUILDING 200 MARYLAND AVENUE NE

WASHINGTON DC 20002

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1. YOU WERE KIND TO ASK ME TO JOIN YOU IN HONORING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS THIS EVENING, DOUBLY SO IN VIEW OF THE PARTICULAR HONOR YOU ARE PAYING MY GOOD FRIEND, BARRY GOLDWATER, FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO OUR NATION. I DO HOPE THAT HE OF ALL PEOPLE WILL UNDERSTAND THAT ONLY THE RENEWED CALL OF "THE WILD BLUE YONDER" MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO JOIN HIS MANY FRIENDS AND ADMIRERS AT DINNER.

2. IT WILL NOT SURPRISE YOU THAT THERE ARE TIMES WHEN SENATOR GOLDWATER AND I DISAGREE. HE, AFTER ALL, HAS THE PERSPECTIVE OF A GENERAL OFFICER WHILE I HAVE THAT OF A SERGEANT. BUT THE GENEROSITY AND CANDOR SO CHARACTERISTIC OF THE ENLISTED MAN NONETHELESS COMPEL ME TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE GREATNESS OF HIS QUALITIES. THERE IS NO PERSON IN PUBLIC SERVICE MORE HIGHLY RESPECTED ON BOTH SIDES OF THE SENATE AISLE, IN BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS, AT BOTH ENDS OF PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE AND IN EVERY CORNER OF THE UNITED STATES.

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3. ON DAYS WHEN THE WORLD LOOKS PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT,
WEARY DIPLOMATS LIKE MYSELF TAKE RENEWED STRENGTH FROM
HIS STRAIGHT TALK, HIS GOOD SENSE, AND HIS COURAGE. I
WELCOME HIS ADVICE, ENJOY HIS COMPANY, AND AM PARTI-
CULARLY PROUD TO ADD MY VOICE TO THOSE VETERANS OF
FOREIGN WARS HONORING BARRY GOLDWATER TONIGHT.

SINCERELY,

HENRY A. KISSINGER

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